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suffer." . . . "I foresee a long, long struggle." Some fifty reproductions of photographs add interest to the text. By all means read this book, not merely for its accurate portrayal of conditions elsewhere, but as a stimulant for the bettering of civic conditions at home.

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Eaton, John. *Grant, Lincoln, and the Freedmen.* Pp. xxxviii, 331. New York: Longmans, Green & Co., 1907.

The title of General Eaton's book correctly describes its contents. It treats of three more or less unrelated subjects. Eaton was a stanch admirer of General Grant, believing him to be a model of civic and military wisdom, and in this book numerous incidents are related which support this conviction of the author. Of Lincoln there is nothing new unless it be the recital of some rather remarkable confidences which Eaton says Lincoln made to him in regard to his mastership over Seward, etc. The author's memory probably played him tricks, for he has related rather too large a proportion of the well-known Lincoln anecdotes as having been first told to him. The most valuable part of the book is a summary of Eaton's work among the blacks of the Mississippi Valley during the war. This account is condensed from his report of 1864 supplemented by explanations and reminiscences. The difference between the policy of Eaton and that of the Treasury Department is clearly stated, and the author is certainly justified in the criticisms he makes of the Treasury plan which paralyzed his own work and resulted in such suffering among the blacks. But he is not correct in so magnifying the results of his own work. As a matter of fact his plans really fell to the ground in 1864 because of the inauguration of the lessee system by the Treasury Department. Had he succeeded in his work there would have been at the proper time and on correct lines a real Freedman's bureau quite different from the institution which was organized after thousands of negroes had perished. Notwithstanding his practical acquaintance with conditions among the blacks after 1862, Eaton was always profoundly ignorant of the actual conditions of slavery. For example, as a proof of negro capacity developed by a year of freedom, he refers to a self-governing community, established during the war, at Davis's Bend, on the lands of Jefferson and Joseph Davis. In fact, the Davises had for forty years been training their negroes to govern themselves by means of black courts, black sheriffs, etc. A similar instance of superficial knowledge of conditions in the South is shown by his statement that the Peabody fund "served to put the system of universal education in the South upon its feet." Of such minor instances of insufficient information there are numerous other evidences, but after all the part of the book about Eaton's own plans and experiences is valuable and all of it is interesting.

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